

Extension/Land Conservation Committee

Tuesday, December 3, 2024, 8:30 A.M.

Room 2151

335 E. Monroe Ave., Barron, WI

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Acknowledgement of Public Posting Requirements
3. Public comment
4. Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – 11/5/24
 - Edit List
 - Announcements –
5. Wildlife Damage: Set Crop Prices - Cody Knoop, USDA APHIS – action item
6. Approve Receipt of Additional Multi Discharge Variance (MDV) Funds – action item
7. Certificate of Compliance – action item
 - a. Nelson, Jason, Town and City of Barron
8. Staff Reports – NRCS, FSA, SWCD, and UWEX (10 minutes) information only
 - Executive Committee Report
 - Fair Board Report
9. Set date for the next meeting – January 7, 2025
10. Adjourn

***If you cannot make the meeting, PLEASE call the SWCD at 715-537-6315.

(All times are estimated)

ADA Statement for Agenda

Any person who has a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act and requires the meeting or materials at the meeting to be in an accessible format must contact the County Clerk's office at 715-537-6200 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting so that arrangements may be made to accommodate your request.

cc: Cook, Gores, Langman, Kusilek, G. Nelson, Huth, McCready, County Clerk, County Administrator, Webmaster, Public postings

EXTENSION-LCC COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, November 5, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

Room 2151

Members present: Gary Nelson, Kirsten Huth, Jim Gores, Randy Cook and Fran Langman. Staff present: Tyler Gruetzmacher, Bronson Thalacker, Jeff French, Lori Baltrusis, Pat Richter (9:19) and Kim Collins.

Absent: Jamie McCready and Audrey Kusilek.

Cook called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and Collins confirmed proper posting of the meeting. No public comment was received.

Motion: (Nelson/Langman) to approve the agenda; carried. **Motion: (Nelson/Gores)** to approve the minutes of October 1, 2024 meeting; carried. No edit list questions; no announcements.

Item #5. Collins presented two FPP Certificates of Compliance for approval and Gruetzmacher answered committee questions. **Motion: (Langman/Huth)** to approve the certificates; carried.

Item #6. Gruetzmacher provided information on the upcoming Land & Water Board election. After committee discussion, **motion: (Langman/Nelson)** to cast the Barron County LCC ballot for Mike Hofberger; carried.

Item #7. Gruetzmacher provided an update from the state approving the extension of the rewrite of the Land & Water Resource Mgt. Plan to 2033, with an update in 2028.

Item #8. Gruetzmacher provided a brief overview of State funding in reference to the 2025-27 State Budget and described the funding shortfall for local staffing. Committee discussion followed.

Item #9. Staff Reports –

FSA – Huth discussed November deadline dates.

SWCD – Gruetzmacher discussed fall projects and Thalacker gave a non-metallic mining update.

UWEX – Baltrusis discussed on the new Foodwise Educator and informed the committee of Sara Waldron's presentation at the National conference where she received the Achievement in Service Award.

NRCS – Richter provided information on the EQIP and CSP programs, stating there are 93 active CSP contracts in Barron County

Executive Committee – N/A

Fair Board – N/A

The next meeting is set for December 3, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

Future agenda items:

Chair adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 9:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Russell-Collins

Administrative Secretary, Land Services

Minutes are not official until approved by the Extension/LCC Committee at the next meeting.

Payment Request Verification - Online Voucher

COUNTY OF BARRON

Batch Year: 24 Department:

Payment Request Date: 11/14/2024

Vendor	Vendor Name	Line	Voucher	Account Description	Date	Description	Amount
6025	WI LAND & WATER CONSERVATION	1	C0090086	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	11/14/2024	LS - INV# 505744698	130.00
229296	PACKERLAND AUTO GLASS	1	C0090087	VEHICLE EXPENSE-LAND SERVICES	11/14/2024	LS - INV# 591139	750.00
177342	UWEX CENTER FOR LAND USE ED	1	C0090088	OFFICE SUPPLIES	11/14/2024	LS - INV# 1539	20.00
139947	AGSOURCE COOPERATIVE SERVIC	1	C0090089	OFFICE SUPPLIES	11/14/2024	SWCD - CUST # 1236356	45.32
139947	AGSOURCE COOPERATIVE SERVIC	2	C0090089	OFFICE SUPPLIES	11/14/2024	SWCD - CUST # 1236356	45.32
229393	AVERY PAM	1	C0090090	CONSERVATION COST SHARING	11/14/2024	SWCD - COVER CROP 24BC027	900.00
183334	GOERTZEN CAMERON	1	C0090091	CONSERVATION COST SHARING	11/14/2024	- COVER CROP 24BC021	1,000.00
233013	KRUIZENGA KEVIN K	1	C0090092	CONSERVATION COST SHARING	11/14/2024	SWCD- COVER CROP 24BB029	1,000.00
88749	MASSIE KELLY	1	C0090093	CONSERVATION COST SHARING	11/14/2024	- COVER CROP 24BC011	1,000.00
184896	MASSIE SHANE	1	C0090094	CONSERVATION COST SHARING	11/14/2024	SWCD - COVER CROP 24BC028	825.00
72443	TRIPP DAN	1	C0090095	CONSERVATION COST SHARING	11/14/2024	SWCD - COVER CROP 24BC020	900.00
159964	SCHEIL CONSTRUCTION LLC	1	C0090096	EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL	11/14/2024	SWCD - 6TH GRADE TOUR	170.00
922	WIEHES HARDWARE HANK	1	C0090097	FIELD SUPPLIES	11/14/2024	LIO - ACCT# 87 - INV# 99530	28.59
922	WIEHES HARDWARE HANK	1	C0090098	OFFICE SUPPLIES	11/14/2024	SWCD - ACCT# 92 - INV# 99141	28.49
274259	APG MEDIA OF WISCONSIN LLC	1	C0090099	PUBLICATIONS	11/14/2024	ZA - INV# RLC525-1024	126.67
426	BELL PRESS INC	1	C0090100	OFFICE SUPPLIES	11/14/2024	ZA - INV# 00008854	28.00
426	BELL PRESS INC	2	C0090100	PUBLICATIONS	11/14/2024	ZA - INV# 00009129	67.34
744	CHETEK ALERT INC	1	C0090101	PUBLICATIONS	11/14/2024	ZA - 10/31/24	171.24
289493	BUREAU OF CORRECTIONAL ENTE	1	C0090102	ADDRESS SIGNING	11/14/2024	ZA - CUST# 92878	104.00
3565	DSPS FISCAL	1	C0090103	DUE TO STATE - SANITATION FEES	11/14/2024	ZA - OCTOBER STATE SAN FEES	2,800.00
Totals:							\$10,139.97

Department Approval

MANUAL VOUCHERS/JOURNAL ENTRIES

Admin Approval

DEPT	NAME	ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
LS	BC HIGHWAY DEPT	220-12-53400-332-000	FUEL 9/28 - 10/25	\$733.21
SWCD	MONTY PETERSON	100-12-56217-790-000	24BC002 WATERWAY	\$1,854.74

MANUAL VOUCHERS TOTAL: \$2,587.95

GRAND TOTAL: \$12,727.92

Land Services Total:	\$1,661.21
Land Information Total:	\$28.59
Soil & Water Conservation Total:	\$7,768.87
Zoning Administration Total:	\$3,269.25

2024 Barron County WDACP Crop Prices

Grain Commodities: (Only those crops/commodities necessary to settle the current year claims are presented.)

CORN: The Risk Management Agency (RMA) produces two prices. Two price discovery periods are used, one February 1 – February 29, 2024 the other October 1 – October 31, 2024. The Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) closing price for each day within the discovery period is averaged, resulting in two prices based on averaged closing prices. The February projected price is approved at \$4.66. The October harvest price is approved at \$4.16.

Proposed corn price #1:

- #2 Yellow Corn (RMA) = **\$4.66-\$4.16/bu**

Proposed corn price #2:

- #2 Yellow Corn (local cash average) = **\$3.74/bu**
- Corn price #2 reflects average, area local cash price paid per bushel. Jennie-O, Bloomer, Rice Lake Synergy and Stanley Ethanol prices were averaged for November 2024

Proposed corn price #3:

- #2 Yellow Corn (NASS) = **\$5.35/bu**
- NASS price is an average price received in Wisconsin from May- September and is published the following month (October prices are available late November)

(SNAP BEANS) GREEN BEANS: To obtain a price for Green Beans the producer provided the rates and pricing report they received for the specific field. Green beans were tested and pricing was adjusted for the desired qualities of the beans. This report can be used as an accurate pricing guide.

Proposed Green Bean Price:

- \$127.00-133.00 / Ton

Committee approved price:

Corn:

Green beans:

Multi-discharger Phosphorus Variance



ELIGIBLE POINT SOURCES:

A point source must meet all of the following to request a MDV:

- Must be an **existing facility**
- Requires a **major facility upgrade** to comply with their phosphorus WQBELs
- Meets the primary and secondary **substantial** indicators
- Agrees to **reduce its phosphorus load** during the variance timeline
- Implements a **watershed project** to help curb nonpoint source phosphorus pollution

An eligibility quiz is available online to help point sources make this determination.

ACRONYMS

DNR: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

DOA: Wisconsin Department of Administration

EIA: Economic Impact Analysis

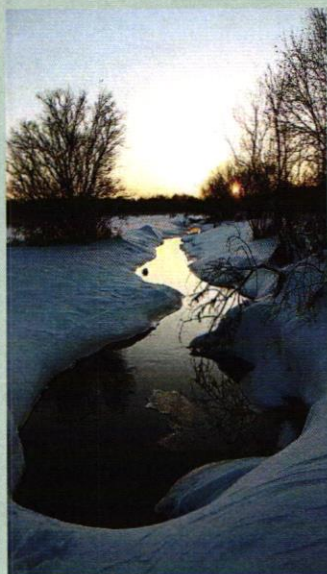
LCD: Land and Water Conservation Department

MDV: Multi-Discharger Variance

WPDES: Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

WQBEL: Water quality-based effluent limit

What is a multi-discharger variance?



A MULTIDISCHARGE VARIANCE (MDV) IS...

- A time extension for point sources facing restrictive phosphorus limits to comply with limits
- An opportunity for point sources to make meaningful strides towards water quality improvements in a more economically effective manner
- Approved on a case-by-case basis and implemented in a WPDES permit

A MDV IS NOT...

- An individual variance pursuant to s. 283.15
- A final compliance option for point sources
- Water quality trading or adaptive management
- Permanent

What the MDV requires:

A point source is responsible for evaluating its compliance options such as facility upgrades, water quality trading, adaptive management, and, potentially, a phosphorus MDV. If a facility meets the eligibility requirements and requests the MDV, the WPDES permit will, upon approval, be modified or reissued with the following requirements:

1. Reductions of effluent phosphorus: Point sources are required to reduce their phosphorus load each permit term. Interim limitations will be included in the permit based on current effluent quality, opportunities for optimization, and other site-specific considerations.
2. Implement a watershed project: Point sources must implement one of the following watershed project options to help reduce nonpoint source of phosphorus pollution:
 - Enter into an agreement with DNR to implement a project to offset the amount of phosphorus their discharge exceeds the target value.
 - Enter into a DNR-approved agreement with a third party to implement a project to offset the amount of phosphorus their discharge exceeds the target value.
 - Make payments to county LCDs of \$50 per pound times the number of pounds of phosphorus their discharge exceeds the target value.

The approval determination must be re-evaluated each permit reissuance of the MDV project timeline. The legal requirements of the MDV determination as well as general implementation procedures can be found in s. 283.16, Wis. Stat.

MDV APPROVAL & DURATION

EPA approved the MDV on February 6, 2017, which is effective until February 5, 2027. Permit terms and conditions that reflect the MDV cannot extend beyond the term of the variance expiration date. Several options are available to extend the current MDV approval to encompass the full time period allotted in s. 283.16, Wis. Stat., including:

- Seeking EPA approval on updated MDV packages, and
- Providing a compliance schedule after MDV expiration.

The Department will continue to work with EPA and stakeholders to pursue these options to maximize the duration of the MDV as necessary and appropriate. Section 283.16, Wis. Stat., authorized the DNR to seek MDV approval for up to 3 permit terms.

ONLINE RESOURCES

- MDV Implementation Guidance
- Informational Webinars
- Application Materials
- County Resources
- Watershed Project Resources
- MDV Package Submitted to EPA
- Local contact information



A grass waterway is an example of an agricultural BMP that can be used as part of a watershed project.

County Payment Option

It is voluntary for County LCDs to participate in the MDV. County LCDs should submit the "County Participation Form" to the DNR by January 1st of each year they wish to receive funding. At least 65% of MDV funds must be spent to bring farmers and other agricultural sources into compliance with NR 151 agricultural performance standards. The remaining funding may be spent on staffing, innovative projects, monitoring, modeling, demonstrations, etc. If a County chooses to participate, they will agree to:

- Develop a plan to use funds (due 1 year after funds received)
- Use the MDV funds appropriately
- Submit annual reports to the DNR until funds are used

Funds must be targeted to the highest phosphorus loading areas within the participating county. This may or may not be the same watershed the MDV funds were generated in. A "watershed plan" form has been created to help streamline the development and submittal of MDV watershed plans to DNR. Section 3.04 of the MDV Implementation Guidance is also designed to provide instructions to County LCDs on how to develop a successful MDV plan. Visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/>, search "statewide phosphorus variance" for more information.

Determining Substantial Impacts

A two-step process was used to determine if phosphorus standards compliance has a substantial impact to point source discharges. The purpose of the first step, commonly referred to as the "primary screener", is to determine the phosphorus standards' economic impact on dischargers in each category. The second step, referred to as the "secondary screener", gauges the wider community's socioeconomic well-being and ability to adapt to changes that accompany implementation of phosphorus standards. In order to meet the "substantial determination" test, a facility must meet the primary screener and one or more secondary screeners. Permittees should review Appendices A-G of the MDV Implementation Guidance or the "eligibility quiz" at dnr.wi.gov, keywords "statewide phosphorus variance" for specific eligibility information:

Primary Screeners:

- Median household income (municipal WWTFs)
- Estimated compliance costs within the discharge category (industries)
- Estimated compliance costs within the county (industries)

Secondary Screeners:

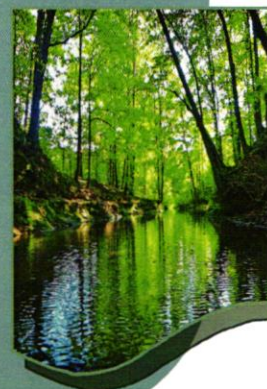
- Median household income (industries only)
- Transfer receipts as a share of total personal income
- Jobs per square mile
- Population change
- Net earnings by place of residence
- Job growth
- Capital costs as a share of total wages

REVIEWING THE MDV

- In order to comply with federal requirements, DNR must triennially review new information to determine if revisions are needed to the MDV including the substantial and widespread socioeconomic determination.
- DNR will also review facility-specific applications of the MDV upon permit reissuance to re-evaluate the need for the variance and update permit terms and conditions associated with s. 283.16, Wis. Stat. and the EPA-approved MDV.
- DNR may request EPA approval of revised phosphorus MDV packages in the future based on new information gathered from these analyses. This may extend the duration of the MDV.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit the DNR website: <http://dnr.wi.gov/>, search "phosphorus"
- Send comments or questions to DNRphosphorus@wisconsin.gov



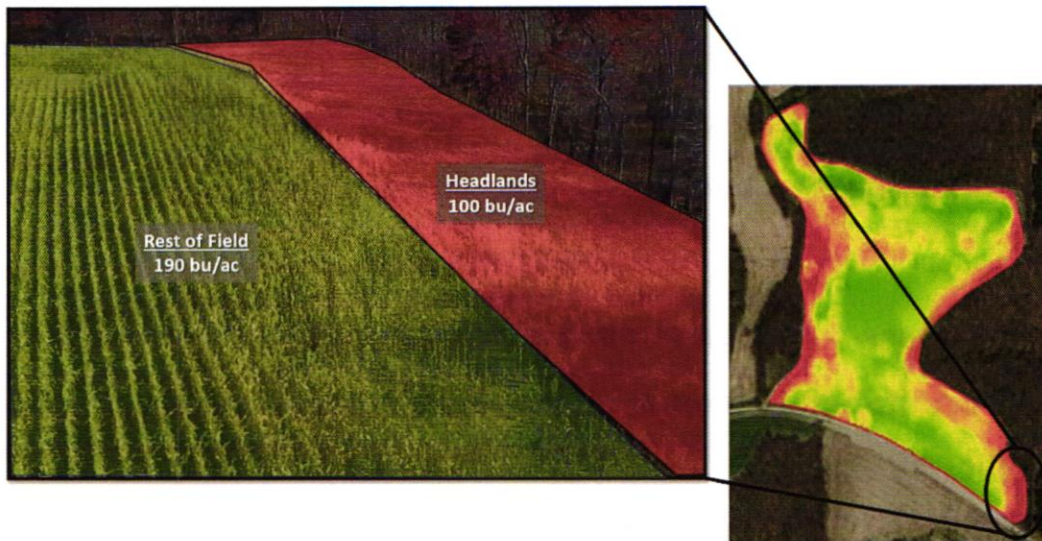
Fact sheet for information only
Prepared by:
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Barron County Harvestable Headland Program

Erosion of headlands or end rows, can be considerable, even in a field that is planted on the contour and generally showing few signs of erosion. This resource concern can be alleviated with conversion to grass on the headland.



In many cases, these areas are yielding less than the interior portions of the field. Research from Cornell University shows that on average, headland yields were 14% lower for corn grain and 16% lower for corn silage. This is due to the increased soil erosion over decades of being farmed up and down the slope, compaction, shade, and damage from turning of spraying equipment.



An alternative to commodity crop production is to plant these areas to perennial cover that can be used as forage or left as a grassland habitat area.

Using funds from a collaboration with wastewater treatment plants that are unable to meet their discharge levels without considerable investment, **Barron County will pay \$750 per acre** for areas seeded to a hay crop or **\$600 per acre** when maintained in hay when the rest of the field is rotated back to corn or soybeans.

Harvestable Headland Program Guidelines

1. The headland must be a resource concern, or showing signs of erosion.
2. The field must have been in row crops of corn, soybeans, or snap beans 4 of the last 10 years.
3. If the field is in hay currently, and meets the requirements of #2, it can be enrolled in the year the rest of the field is planted to corn.
4. Establishment of perennial cover on a large enough area to eliminate planting of headlands or end rows. This will be dependent on the width of planting, spraying, and hay equipment with a maximum of 120'.
5. The seeding will be predominantly grass and clover. Alfalfa is not recommended due to traffic considerations.
6. Payment will be made after the headland is established in grass, \$750 per acre for new planting or \$600 per acre when left in established hay.
7. Payment will be made to the landowner.
8. There is one payment for the program.
9. Headland must be maintained in vegetative cover for a minimum of 5 years.
10. Harvest of the grass is strongly encouraged.
11. Applicants will be ranked based on slope and length.

Benefits

- Increased field access for crop scouting, harvest and recreation
- Increased field profitability by eliminating areas that lose money
- Increased wildlife habitat
- Significant reductions in sediment loss

Contact the Barron County Soil & Water Conservation Department at 715-537-6315 or bronson.thalacker@co.barron.wi.us for more information.